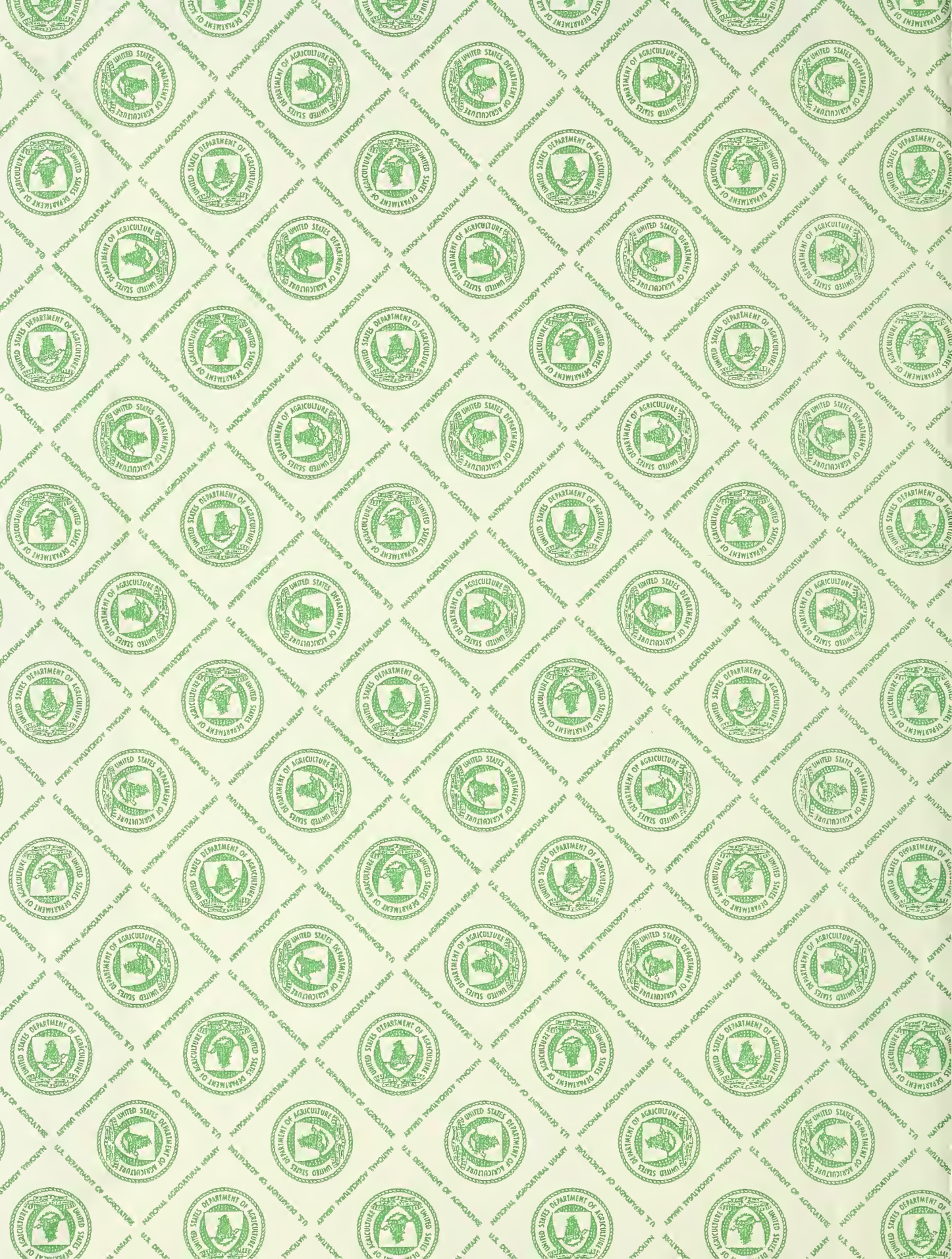
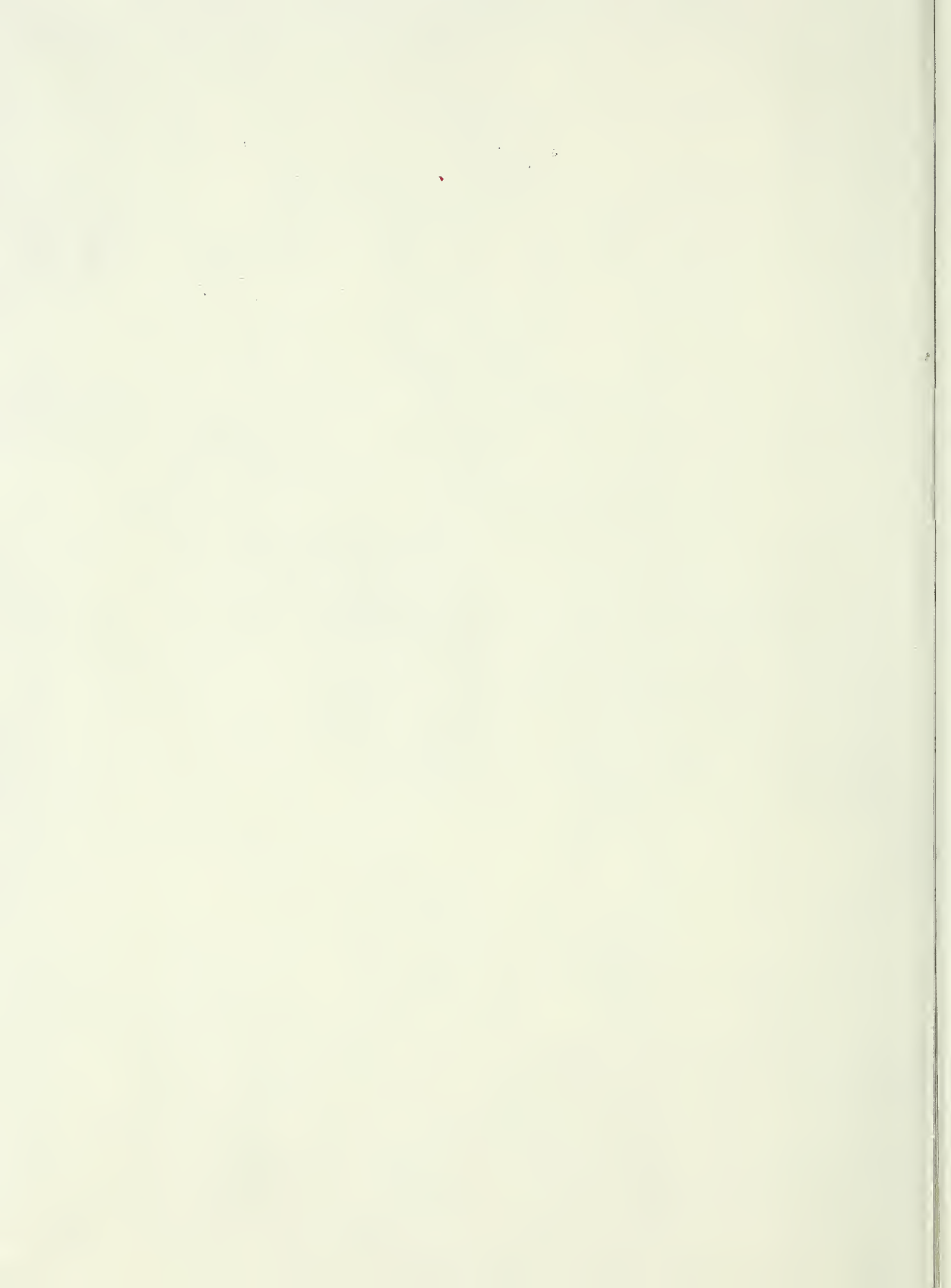


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AGRICULTURAL LIBRARIES INFORMATION NOTES

PROLOGUE

The National Agricultural Library has been for many years the only one of the three U.S. National Libraries without an official newsletter.

From January 1926 to June 1942 the USDA Library issued a publication titled Agricultural Library Notes. This useful newsletter was terminated by the exigencies of a wartime economy. It was never resumed although various internal newsletters were developed to partially fill the communications gap. The establishment of an official newsletter has been strongly urged upon us to improve contacts with the agricultural research community and to keep cooperating libraries better informed about our activities. This has become more of a necessity as sophisticated information retrieval systems are turning libraries from curators of information into purveyors of information.

With this issue of Agricultural Libraries Information Notes we intend to open up a channel of communication with agricultural libraries. This will be a monthly publication. Our aim is fourfold: to provide

- ..descriptions of information activities and resources in the field
- ..a forum for all components of USDA concerned with provision of information services
- ..solutions of information problems developed in one location that can be shared with others
- ..information about what is going on at NAL and in the agri-research world.

We welcome your comments and suggestions as to topics for future issues. Richard A. Farley, Director, NAL

CAIN ON-LINE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

by David Oyler, Director
Steenbock Memorial Library
University of Wisconsin, Madison

Utilizing grant funds from the National Agricultural Library (NAL) for a study of forestry literature indexing coverage, the Steenbock Library provided on-line searches of the CAIN data base on a non-cost recovery basis between 15 September 1973 and 16 May 1974. CAIN on-line accessing was an adjunct to the forestry literature study and provided the Steenbock Library with demonstration and testing capabilities of the CAIN citation data base

Equipment

CAIN on-line was accessed through the Lockheed Dialog Information Retrieval system first with a Texas Instruments "Silent 700" teletype terminal on loan from NAL. For continued operation, the staff chose to lease a Hazelline 2000 cathode ray terminal (CRT) because: (1) it is more visually impressive to library users than a portable teletype terminal; (2) search strategy and resultant retrievals were judged more readable, particularly for group demonstrations; and (3) system limitations made extensive on-line printing prohibitively expensive.

Actual CAIN connections were made via a leased line telephone network used by the state of Wisconsin. The terminals leased by the Steenbock were operated at 30 characters per second (300 Baud). This was necessary because higher speeds (1200 Baud and above) require more sensitive, permanently installed equipment, including a modem. At 30 characters per second, an acoustic coupler linking an ordinary telephone with the terminal proved satisfactory.

Direct dialing to the computer was selected since the cost was less than utilizing the Tymeshare network. Using the State of Wisconsin's leased line system cost twelve cents per minute as compared to twenty-four cents for Tymeshare.

Training

As part of the Grant arrangement, a Steenbock staff member was sent to NAL for a week of training in efficient utilization of the data base on-line, and to learn the indexing and coding schemes of CAIN. Additionally, other staff members attended seminars offered by Lockheed on a fee for service basis.

User Group

During the period of demonstration and testing, the CAIN on-line service was made available to University graduate students and staff, and other user groups (government agencies, associations, and agri-business). Publicity was intentionally low-key consisting of two notices in the Steenbock Booklist, and announcements and discussions at several College of Agricultural and Life Sciences departmental faculty meetings. Most users learned of availability via word-of-mouth. This approach is highly recommended in early months of service given limited staff and fiscal resources.

Searches during the demonstration project were made without cost to the user. Searches were performed when the user requested them. The initial light demand corresponds to the capabilities of the Library to perform, and allowed the terminal operators to become familiar with the search methodology.

ogy and the peculiarities of the system before demand increased. By March 1974, user pressure became so heavy that an appointments system to control the number of searches was instituted and is still active.

The service drew users from most departments of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, as well as other units on and off campus. The most prolific users were in veterinary science, entomology, and plant pathology in that order, accounting for 43.1% of the CAIN searches during the eight month trial period.

This pattern of departmental usage is related in part to word-of-mouth publicity and certain strengths of the data base itself. It is anticipated that the pattern of departmental usage will change considerably over time.

Statistical summary and evaluation

During the test period, 137 searches were made returning a total of 13,404 citations in a total of 2,762 minutes of connect time. A median search took 21 command steps using 20 descriptors and retrieved 54 citations in 18.47 minutes. The median cost, exclusive of terminal rental and personnel, was \$14.14. These costs were divided: Computer and terminal time, 53.3%; Off-line printing (5¢ per citation), 31.3%; Telephone, 15.4%.

A model budget for computerized bibliographic data retrieval system for the Fiscal Year 1975 was established on this basis:

Staff (0.375 FTE)	\$ 4,500
Equipment rental	1,416
Data base access	
& printouts	20,317
Telephone	<u>2,695</u>

Expenses were estimated at... \$28,928....on the assumptions of 24 searches per week, September thru May; 12 searches per week, June thru August; and heaviest utilization was of the BIOSIS, CAIN, and CAC data bases.

BIOSIS data services are not yet available but will constitute a major resource. At least fifty percent of 1975 costs were predicated on the availability of BIOSIS. Subsequent experience in this scientific library has demonstrated regular demand for the NTIS data base.

A questionnaire designed to elicit and evaluate user reactions was attached to each printout delivered to the requester, of which 64.2% were returned. These users indicated that 42.3% of the citations were relevant to their search needs, 30.5% were peripherally relevant, and 27.3% were not relevant.

The combined relevant and peripherally relevant ratings (72.8%) compare very favorably with other similar studies. Non-relevant retrievals are due in some degree to the desire of some users to "make sure nothing is missed" and the non-thesaurus controlled nature of the data base.

The questionnaire also asked the user to give a general evaluation of his search: the responses were: Better than expected, 47.7%; Same as expected, 36.45%; Less than expected, 15.9%.

Combined general evaluation results rated "better than expected" and "same as expected" accounted for 84.1% of responses.

Users were given a range of dollar values they would be willing to pay for such services, from one to ten dollars and more. In point of fact, the hoped for subsidies for such services have failed to materialize and users now pay full connect time and off-line printing charges. The library pays all other charges (phone, equipment, and personnel). Therefore, the users actually pay considerably more than the ten dollars high value suggested in the questionnaire.

Users were impressed with the time saved by computer searching vis a vis manual searching. Perhaps the best illustration comes from one professor's remarks:

"I obtained more information in one half-hour than I have in the past three years by other methods, and I have a feeling that I have not missed pertinent material".

Responses to the low key advertising was not altogether satisfactory since the prospective user could not visualize the system nor readily understand its advantages. Seeing is believing, and, as initial users spread the word, search demands increased. Nevertheless, some users felt that the CAIN searches were neither as complete nor as specific as manual searching, although these deficiencies were counterbalanced by time savings. Complaints focused on three areas: (1) Lack of adequate subject control; (2) Limited time frame of the data base, and (3) Insufficient breadth of serial coverage.

Fairness demands some caution in interpreting these criticisms since it was not within the scope of this brief study to analyze specific deficiencies. Eight months of highly varied data base accessing after completion of this study has convinced the Steenbock staff that CAIN is the most difficult of the cited data bases to access. This suggests that training for CAIN usage should be more intensive than for many other data bases.

Libraries contemplating computerized bibliographic data base services must consider the impact on the total library operation. Reference service, interlibrary loans, circulation, and collection development are areas where CAIN on-line has impact. Significantly, the library's overall image is enhanced. On-line accessing of bibliographic data is seen by users to mark the library's advance to being a purveyor of information and shedding some of its curatorial image.

Seed money for initial exposure and testing is necessary and ought to provide for 150 - 200 searches in a large, complex scientific setting before cost recovery is seriously contemplated. The library staff is very strongly of the opinion that the user should be present during the search since he or she can provide valuable assistance. After a search gets underway the user sees the large amount of information to be retrieved, and why it is necessary to define carefully the scope of the search. Precise definition of search topics is the most difficult aspect of CAIN searches due in large part to the way the data base is structured. Here the interplay between the searcher and the user is most critical.

This abbreviated report is necessarily selective and some readers may wish to contact the author for a copy of the unabridged report. In addition, two promotional brochures have been prepared and are available to requesters. The author gratefully acknowledges the assistance of Messrs. Wallace Olsen and Thomas Crawford of NAL who were generous in their assistance during the project. Inquiries should be addressed to David K. Oyler, Steenbock Memorial Library, University of Wisconsin, 550 Babcock Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53706.

NEWS

Waters chosen as Associate Director

Mr. Samuel T. Waters has been appointed Associate Director of the National Agricultural Library filling the position vacated by Dr. Joseph F. Caponio in June 1973. Mr. Waters joined the National Agricultural Library in 1970 as Deputy Director for Resource Development with primary responsibility in technical services including the cataloging, acquisition, and indexing functions. He has been instrumental in implementation of automation efforts such as CAIN on-line and the computerized serial lists.

Mr. Waters grew up in western New York State, and served as a combat infantryman during World War II. He earned a B.A. degree from the University of Colorado in 1950 and his MSLS from Catholic University in 1959.

His entry into the Federal service was with the Library of Congress in 1951 where he remained until 1955. After experience at Georgetown University as Assistant Librarian, and as Associate Librarian at George Washington University, he reentered Federal work as the Chief, Reference Service, Division of the National Library of Medicine. He later became Deputy Associate Director for Library Operations at NLM, the position he held until coming to the National Agricultural Library.

Mr. Waters has been active in the areas of standards for machine readable bibliographic records, library automation, and management practices through committee work within the American Library Association, Federal Library Committee, and other national groups.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY RECEIVES NURSERY GROUPS' RECORDS

Archival records of various nursery industry associations--including handwritten minutes of an 1891 meeting - - have been presented to the National Agricultural Library (NAL). Dr. Richard A. Farley, library director, has said the acquisition is particularly important as supplementary material to NAL's own collection of nursery and seed trade catalogs.

Presentation was made by Dr. Richard P. White, consultant, and Robert Lederer, executive vice-president, American Association of Nurserymen, Inc.

Oldest of the records is the original handwritten minutes of the second meeting of the Western Association of Nurserymen in 1891. A complete file of the Pacific Coast Nurseryman Magazine, 1933-1938, plus convention rosters, proceedings, badge books, code of ethics, and the Marketing Agreement of 1935, as well as the minutes of their meetings, were contributed to the NAL collection by Walter Dimm, formerly of Sweeney, Straub and Dimm, Portland, Ore.

Other interesting items in the collection include the proceedings, constitution, and by-laws of the Rocky Mountain Nurserymen's Association, the minutes of the meetings of the short-lived Council of Eastern Nurserymen and the minutes of the Women of the American Association usually called the Ladies Auxilliary.



From left to right: Dr. Richard Farley, Director, NAL, Dr. Richard White, Consultant, AAN, and Robert Lederer, Exec. Vice-President, AAN.

TO ALL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AGRICULTURE SUBSCRIBERS

This is to notify you that The Oryx Press will be the publisher of the Bibliography of Agriculture starting with the January 1975 issue. There will be no interruption of service in your subscription. As before, the publication will be produced from data provided by the National Agricultural Library of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The cost per annual subscription has been lowered to only \$85.00, plus postage.

The contents of the Bibliography of Agriculture will be expanded and increased starting with the January 1975 issue. Oryx Press with the cooperation of Macmillan Information and the National Agricultural Library has been able to identify the various sections of the B of A which were in the original publication issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture prior to 1970, but which were dropped by Macmillan. Several of these will now be included. There will be separate sections of USDA, FAO, Experiment Station, and Extension Service publications, with full bibliographic data; there will be a list of New Serial Titles; and there will be a list of Journal Titles indexed in each issue of the B of A, with the volume and issue number covered.

In addition, no titles will be truncated and each author of each publication will be included in each main entry citation.

The Subject Index of the Bibliography of Agriculture will be expanded to include the complete title of each journal article cited. Oryx Press will discontinue the Macmillan Information practice of allowing each title only one line, which has resulted in title truncation of both the end and the beginning of almost every title. The Subject Index will be issued as a separate publication, for retrospective search, at separate cost, and will be based on an expanded Subject Authority File. In addition, the Subject Authority File will be published under the title, Bibliography of Agriculture Thesaurus as a separate hardbound publication.

When you receive your January issue, a User Questionnaire will be included. Oryx Press would appreciate having your responses to the questions asked as soon as possible so that your comments and suggestions can be taken into consideration for all future issues. They are especially anxious to have your views on the possible inclusion of a separate section of monographs catalogued by the National Agricultural Library each month. If the majority of users concur, the monographs will be included in forthcoming issues of the Bibliography of Agriculture. We would also like your views on the format of the new Subject Index and its separate publication as Part Two of the B of A.

For those of you who also subscribe to the B of A Annual Cumulative, you will receive your 1974 copies as ordered, from Macmillan Information; starting with the 1975 edition, however, Oryx Press will be the publisher of the Cumulatives as well.

ARL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NAMED

The Association of Research Libraries, Washington, D. C., has named John P. McDonald executive director of the association. McDonald will replace the retiring Stephen A. McCarthy on Jan 1, 1975.

OPPORTUNITIES IN GOVERNMENT LIBRARIES

A final report has been prepared as a result of a study done by the University of Maryland College of Library and Information Services and the National Agricultural Library. The study, Alternative Educational Patterns for Career Opportunities; Education, Job Roles, and Upward Mobility, dealt with pre- and para-professional levels in government libraries in the Washington, D. C. area. It is available from the Student Supply Store, University of Maryland, College Park, Md. 20742. Authors: Margaret E. Chisholm and Charles R. Anderson. Price: \$4.75.

NEW LITERATURE SEARCHES

The publications listed below are in the form of typescript or computer printout which may be reproduced on demand. Orders may be placed with

National Agricultural Library
Lending Division
Beltsville, MD 20705

Copying charges for electrostatic copy are

\$1.00 for each 10 pages or fraction
copied from a single article or book.

Payment must accompany the order. Cash, Library coupons, check or money order drawn to the National Agricultural Library are acceptable. Payment for orders originating outside of the United States should be made by International money order or draft on an American bank, or by UNESCO book coupons. Superintendent of Documents coupons and requests to furnish photocopy to be paid from Superintendent of Documents Deposit funds cannot be honored. Credit may be extended to Government agencies and institutions. Billing address, if other than the mailing address, should be indicated in the appropriate place. Please include ZIP Code in all addresses.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY Typescript \$3.00
147 citations. 27pp. 1974

A current review of literature available in NAL on agricultural machinery and implements. Includes a selective listing of publications from USDA Agencies.

BUFFALO BIBLIOGRAPHY
32 citations. 3pp. 1974 Typescript \$1.00

This bibliography was generated to support a significant on-going systematic study of hybridization using bison and the domestic cow. It presents a brief history of 19th century man's exploitation of the buffalo as a source of food, raw materials, game and as an economically valuable commodity in our society today.

HYDROPONICS AND AQUACULTURE
194 citations. 36pp. 1974 Computer printout
from CAIN On-Line, \$4.00

Presents current techniques and advances in hydroponics and aquaculture. An interesting delineation of aquaculture: the culture of sea, lake and river foodstuffs i.e. fish and oysters, seaweeds etc., and hydroponics: growing plants without sand, gravel or other inert medium to provide mechanical support.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Copies may be obtained by sending a return addressed mailing label (we'll pay the postage) to Room 204, National Agricultural Library, Beltsville, MD. 20705. Please state your needs and refer to the title. Publications are free unless otherwise indicated.

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY ON OPIUM AND ORIENTAL POPPIES AND RELATED SPECIES.
Beltsville, Agricultural Research Service, 1973.
349p. (ARS-NE-28)

Emphasis is placed on agronomic, ecological and geographical aspects of important poppy species. This bibliography was produced as the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service contribution toward the campaign to reduce drug abuse.

FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN: an annotated bibliography. Beltsville, National Agricultural Library, 1975. (Library List 99) 78p.

A review of literature which highlights the advancement made in Food Service Programs for children as they relate to National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, the Special Food Service Program for Children and the Special Milk Program.

SERIALS CURRENTLY RECEIVED BY THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY Beltsville, National Agricultural Library,
1974 1215p. \$13.55

A listing of approximately 15,000 serials currently received by NAL which will enable users to identify and utilize some of the major information resources acquired by the Library.

Order from Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 20402.

NAL SERIAL GAP LIST - No. 1

The following journal issues are this month's continuation to the list of gaps in NAL's collection. If you can furnish any of these items, please address them to:

Selection Section - GAPS
National Agricultural Library
10301 Baltimore Blvd.
Beltsville, MD 20705

Agri Digest (Belgium) 1-4, 1965; 5-8, 1966; 9-11, 1967

Agricoltura 16:3, 1967; 18: 5-11, 1969; 19: 2-5, 1970

Agricultura al Dia (Puerto Rico) 13: 9-10, 1967; 14: 8-9, 1968; 16: 1-2, 1969; 16: 9-10, 1970; 17: 5-6, 1970; 17-12, 1971

Agricultural Aircraft Accident Summary (New Zealand, Ministry of Transport. Air Accidents Inspectorate) 1970, 1971, 1972, (all issues-semiannual)

Agronomy News 1967 (all issues)

Das Aktuelle Schauenfenster 17: 10, 1967; 18:11, 1968; 19:10, 1969; 20:3, 1970; 21:7-11, 1971

Alimentazione Animale 11: 8,9, 1967

Food Industries of South Africa 20:10-13,1968; 21: 1-8, 1968

Forest Research in India (Forest Research Institute, Dehra) 1955-56, pt. 1; 1956-57, pt. 1

AGRICULTURAL DATEBOOK

February 27-28: ISAD INSTITUTE "Networks and Networking II; The Present and Potential". New Orleans. Contact: David P. Hammer, ISAD, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611

April 14-18: 5th WORLD CONGRESS, IAALD. Mexico City. Theme: Information Networks. Contact: Mrs. Ana Maria Paz de Erickson, AIBDA-IICA-CIDIA, Turrialba, Costa Rica

May 22-24: MIDWEST ACADEMIC LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE. Ohio State University Libraries. Contact: Rita Hirschman, Ohio State University Libraries, Columbus, Ohio 43210

June 8-12: SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSN. Chicago, Palmer House Hotel. Contact: Ralph Lessing, Promotion Coordinator, SLA, 235 Park Ave. S., New York, N.Y. 10003

June 15-20: 20th SEMINAR ON THE ACQUISITION OF LATIN AMERICAN LIBRARY MATERIALS (SALAM). Bogota, Colombia. Contact: Mrs. Pauline P. Collins, Executive Secretary of SALAM, Secretariat, University of Massachusetts Library, Amherst, MA 01002

June 29-July 5: ALA Conference. San Francisco, CA.

July 5-9: 2nd MID-PACIFIC LIBRARY CONFERENCE. Honolulu, Hawaii. Contact: HLA Travel and Housing Control Center, Group Travel Unlimited, Post Office Box 2198, Honolulu, Hawaii 96805

Sept. 24-26: AGRICULTURAL LITERATURE SYMPOSIUM - proud heritage, future promise. Beltsville, Md. Contact: Executive Secretary, The Associates of the National Agricultural Library, Inc., 10301 Baltimore Blvd., Beltsville, MD 20705

APPRECIATION

1. *To My Friends at NAL:*

Thank you so much for your heart-warming generosity at the time of my retirement.

The luncheons and gifts were deeply appreciated.

I will think of all of you while sitting here resting with no meetings to attend.

Sincerely,

Vern Van Dyke

2. *On behalf of the employees at NAL the Library Employees Advisory Committee (LEAC) wishes to express its gratitude and appreciation to two employees who gave a special effort to help make our 1974 NAL Christmas Party a success; Joe Swab, Chairman, and Chris Justin, Chairwoman of the Food Committee. The day of the party, Chris was in great pain because of a pinched nerve in her arm. Later that same day Chris went to the hospital, where she remained for a number of days before being able to return to her home.*

IN THE LIMELIGHT

Bob Birch received the following congratulatory telegram from Louis F. Czufin:

Congratulations. You have won ..Recognition.. in Organizational Division of National Spokesman of the Year Contest. Citation will follow. Best Wishes.

The February Book of the Month Club selection Black Sunday is the work of Dick Riley, nephew of Mary Donnelly (Data Input) in collaboration with two other newsmen. A lengthy article on Dick was published in the Youngstown Vindicator, Sunday, January 12, 1975.

STAFF PUBLICATIONS

1. Avakian, A. M. Armenia and the Armenians in academic dissertations; a bibliography. Berkeley, CA., Professional Press, 1974. 38p. \$3.00
(Miss Avakian is a retired USDA agency field librarian)
2. Caponio, J. F. and Moran, L. "AGRIS". In Science. Ja. 24, 1975.
3. Fusonie, A. "An experiment in foreign agricultural education in the Balkans, 1920-1939". In East European Quarterly. 8:4. Ja. 1975.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

<u>APPOINTMENTS</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SECTION</u>	<u>E.O.D. DATE</u>
Patricia Jones	GS-2	Clk.Typ.	Procurement	1/27/75

<u>RETIREMENT</u>				
Darlene White	GS-3	Clk.Typ.	Indexing	1/31/75

ATTACHMENT

LEAC - Minutes of Meeting Dec. 4, 1974

January 6, 1975

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY

Library Employee Advisory Committee

December 4, 1974--The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman, Mary Stuart Mellom.

Members present:

Charles Bebee
Betty Daniel
Mary Fealy
Darlene Hackley
Bev Kohn
Mary Stuart Mellom
Joyce Myers

Linda Quade
Eleanor Robey
Joseph Swab
Irene White-repr. by E. Robey
Don Yeldell
Carl Younger

Members absent:

Rosemary Bugher
Sara Moorman
Leila Moran
Donald North

The minutes were approved.

Stafford Jones made a final report on the CFC Campaign. NAL reached 97.5% of its goal by raising \$5,202.95, with 75.8% participation.

The Cafeteria Committee is working with Wometco and some changes will be made.

Betty Daniel will replace Brenda Willard as a LEAC Representative.

Meeting adjourned,

Linda Quade

Linda Quade, Secretary

